News from Saddleback College

For Immediate Release
February 27, 2012

Contact: Jennie McCue
jmccue@saddleback.edu
(949) 582-4320

Amy Wheeler
awheeler@saddleback.edu
(949) 582-4897

Saddleback College Foundation Invites Community to 12th Annual Gala
Event Will Raise Money for Student Scholarships and Campus Programs

Mission Viejo, CA –Saddleback College invites all community members to the 12th annual foundation gala on Saturday, March 31st at 6:00 p.m. in the college’s gymnasium. Tickets include gaming, a silent auction, dinner, music, and no-host cocktails. This year’s theme is “A Glamorous Night of Stars” and will feature a tribute to five local community “stars” who have significantly donated to the college: The Bernard Osher Foundation, Dorothy Marie Lowry, Kia Motors, Linda Richardson Rice, and the Saddleback College Associated Student Government.

The gala will highlight the work of Saddleback students: Culinary arts students will prepare and serve appetizers and desserts, fine arts students will accompany music instructor Joey Sellers’ jazz band to provide entertainment, event décor will be created by interior design students, and a graphics class designed several printed pieces for the event.

Tickets are $100 each, $800 for a table of eight, or $1,000 for a table of 10. Sponsorships for the event are available at two levels, Gold ($5,000) and Silver ($2,500). For sponsorship opportunities or to reserve your tickets, please visit the event’s website at http://alumni.saddleback.edu/gala, call 949.582.4479, or email scfound@saddleback.edu.

Dr. Tod A. Burnett, President of Saddleback College, stated, “Each year this is one of my favorite events and it is a perfect opportunity to come out for a fun night that benefits Saddleback College students. More than 500,000 alumni have benefited from the college’s outstanding academic and career training programs, and our gala will help fund scholarships that enable students to achieve their higher education goals.”

“One of the most important missions of the Saddleback College Foundation is to raise money for students and the annual gala has always been the cornerstone for student scholarships,” said Donna Varner, President of Saddleback College Foundation Board of Governors. “We are so thankful to our many sponsors, especially our Gold Sponsors -- Cox Communications, Mercedes Benz of Laguna Niguel and South County Bank -- as well as to every individual and business that donated the wonderful items for the silent auction.”

Saddleback College’s 2012 Alumnus of the Year, Nico Melendez, will also be honored at the gala. After completing his general education at Saddleback College, Mr. Melendez transferred to Chaminade University, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in historical and political studies. He then earned a Master of Public Administration degree from Troy State University in 2000.
Currently, Mr. Melendez is a professional broadcaster/communicator working for the Transportation Security Administration. An officer in the United States Naval Reserve, Mr. Melendez was named the 66th Assembly District Veteran of the Year in 2011.

The Saddleback College gymnasium is located at 28000 Marguerite Parkway in Mission Viejo. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to (949) 582-4479, or email scfound@saddleback.edu. Business casual attire is recommended; no jeans, please.

Located in Mission Viejo, Saddleback College provides quality higher education and training to the greater south Orange County community. Having served more than 500,000 students since 1968, Saddleback College offers more than 300 degree and certificate programs to help students reach their personal, career, and educational goals. For more information, please visit www.saddleback.edu.

###